

TEST 3, WRITING TASK 1

SAMPLE ANSWER

This is an answer written by a candidate who achieved a **Band 7** score. Here is the examiner's comment:

The candidate states the purpose of the letter at the outset. All three bullet points are covered and clearly highlighted (even though the first and second bullet points are addressed in reverse order). Information and ideas are logically organised and there is a clear progression throughout the response. There is some flexibility and precision in the use of lexis and evidence of ability to use less common items (*underestimate the importance of this center, the influence of sporting activities ... on the health of the people, fitness lessons for adults, negative consequences, the opportunity to spend their time in a healthy atmosphere*). US spelling is used consistently throughout; spelling and word choice errors are only occasional (*meat/meet, consequences the closure of the center could do*). There is a variety of complex structures, used with some flexibility and accuracy (*raise my concern regarding ..., provided it doesn't rain, people could become less engaged in ... affect their health, for the people interested in sport it will become more difficult to ...*). There are a few grammatical errors, but these do not impede communication.

Dear Sir or Madam,

My name is Irana Smirnova and I am writing to raise my concern regarding the plans to close our local sports and leisure center. It is hard to underestimate the importance of this center for citizens; in fact, it became the point where we all meet each other to share some positive emotions and spend free time. Also, one cannot miss the influence of sporting activities provided there on the health of the people.

My family is used to going to the center several times a week. My husband and I attend fitness lessons for adults on Monday and Wednesday after work. My two sons went to the center after school; they have a place there to do their homework, to play with other children and relax in safe environment. On weekends we usually meet friends there and go to the swimming pool or open-air tennis courts provided it doesn't rain cats and dogs.

I can think of several negative consequences the closure of the center could do. Firstly, people could become less engaged in sport activities which will definitely affect their health. Secondly, children will lose the opportunity to spend their time in a healthy atmosphere and will spend more time at the street. Finally, for the people interested in sport it will become more difficult to get to the place to exercise as the nearest sports center in in Tornton which is 30 miles away.

I believe this question deserves close attention.

Yours faithfully

Irana Smirnova